

PROVIDING THAT THE EXISTING PROJECT FOR A NAVIGATION CHANNEL ON THE GUADALUPE RIVER, TEX., BE INCORPORATED WITH AND MADE A PART OF THE PROJECT FOR THE GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

JULY 5 (legislative day, JUNE 27), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. CHAVEZ, from the Committee on Public Works, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 6812]

The Committee on Public Works, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6812) to provide that the existing project for a navigation channel on the Guadalupe River, Tex., be incorporated with and made a part of the project for the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

Guadalupe River has its source in southwestern Texas, approximately 32 miles south of Junction, Tex.; flows in a southeasterly direction a distance of about 458 miles and empties into the head of San Antonio Bay, 60 miles northeast of Corpus Christi and 140 miles southwest of Galveston.

The existing plan of improvement provides for a navigation channel 9 feet deep and 100 feet wide extending about 45.5 miles from the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway by way of Seadrift to a point on the Guadalupe River 3 miles above Victoria, Tex. The project was authorized by the River and Harbor Act approved March 2, 1945.

Under the provisions of the bill the existing project for navigation on the Guadalupe River would be integrated with and made a part of the project for the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway between Apalachee Bay, Fla., and the Mexican border. Guadalupe River is actually a tributary or feeder channel of the Intracoastal Waterway.

Similar channels in other Texas rivers, such as the Colorado, San Bernard, and Arroyo Colorado, have heretofore been incorporated with, and made a part of, the Gulf intracoastal waterway project.

The committee has been advised that considerable industrial development is taking place in this area. The Carbide & Carbon Chemical

Co. is planning construction of a large chemical plant adjacent to the proposed waterway in the vicinity of Seadrift where water transportation will be available. The du Pont Co. are now operating a large nylon salt plant adjacent to the river 8.5 miles below Victoria. The committee feels that this legislation is necessary to designate this important tributary as a part of the Gulf intracoastal waterway system.

The estimated Federal cost of the Guadalupe River channel is \$13,400,000, and the cost to local interests is \$1,066,000, a total of \$14,203,000. Appropriations of \$200,000 for planning only have been made to date. Enactment of this bill does not involve the expenditure of additional Federal funds since it authorizes only a change in designation, and does not authorize any alterations or modifications to the existing project.

The Department of the Army and the Bureau of the Budget offer no objection to the provisions of the bill, as evidenced by the following letter:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C., June 13, 1952.

HON. CHARLES A. BUCKLEY,
Chairman, Committee on Public Works,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. BUCKLEY: Reference is made to your request for the views of the Department of the Army with respect to H. R. 6812, Eighty-second Congress, a bill to provide that the existing project for navigation on the Guadalupe River, Tex., be incorporated with and made a part of the project for the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

The Department of the Army has considered the above-mentioned bill. The purpose of the bill is stated in the title.

The existing project for Guadalupe River provides for a navigation channel 9 feet deep and 100 feet wide extending 45.5 miles from the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway by way of Seadrift, Tex., to a point on the river 3 miles above Victoria. The project is authorized by the River and Harbor Act approved March 2, 1945. The item authorizing the navigation channel also authorizes construction of the Canyon Reservoir considerably farther upstream; the reservoir would not be affected by this bill.

The Department has no objection to the enactment of H. R. 6812, subject to the following suggested changes:—

(1) Insert in line 4, after the word "Texas," the clause "authorized by the River and Harbor Act approved March 2, 1945".

(2) Change the word "navigation" in the title to "a navigation channel."

The bill does not involve the expenditure of funds by the United States in addition to that heretofore authorized.

This report has been coordinated among the Departments and Boards of the Department of Defense in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK PACE, Jr.,
Secretary of the Army.